

From: "Town of Cushing" <cushingme@adelphia.net>
To: "Chester Knowles" <cknow@adelphia.net>
Subject: December 28, 2006 meeting
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**TOWN OF CUSHING
SELECTMEN MEETING
December 28, 2006 6:00 PM
CUSHING COMMUNITY CENTER**

Selectmen Present: Alton Grover, Kim Young, Peter Haviland, David Glidden.

The Board approved Warrant #136

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM. Peter Haviland made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2006 meeting. The motion was withdrawn until sufficient selectmen who were in attendance can vote on it.

Changes to the Agenda

Regarding a permit request from Leroy Firth, it was decided to reschedule till the applicant could be present.

Chester Knowles stated that the Cemetery Board was short one member. He asked if the selectmen would like him to advertise this before January 15th. The Selectmen agreed that it should be advertised to fill the missing position.

Chairman of the Ordinance Committee Dan Staples requested time to discuss the Ordinance Committee. Chairman Alton Grover stated that it could be fit in right now if that was acceptable. Dan requested it to be later in the meeting. (Dan was called away prior to his request being fulfilled.)

Kim Young reported that she had met with Joe Carr and Austin Donaghy regarding the needs of the Cushing Rescue Squad in the upcoming year. It was stated that Rockland will now be billing Cushing when Advanced Life Support is unavailable from Cushing. An estimate of a little more than ten thousand dollars per year may be required if assistance is needed based on previous years. On average, ALS services are needed on approximately thirty calls per year. Cushing now has a licensed paramedic who can attend to these calls which may reduce the frequency with which Rockland is called upon for assistance. Three possible options were suggested by Joe and Austin in order to address the costs of ALS from Rockland. Any and all of these suggestions will be considered for inclusion on the next town meeting warrant. 1. The funds could be appropriated. 2. The funds could be assigned from excise tax or undesignated funds. 3. Patients requiring ALS care could be billed based on Medicare/Medicaid guidelines. Another possibility discussed by the board was to have a full time or per diem paramedic staffed for these instances. Due to the limited number of calls, it was agreed that a full time paramedic is not warranted at this time. Daniel Staples stated that he was concerned that a resident without sufficient financial resources may be hurt if the cost was passed on to them. Kim responded that the fee

for these calls would be in accordance with Medicare/Medicaid fee guidelines. It was suggested that a workshop take place with the rescue squad to address this further prior to the budget proposal for next year. Selectman David Glidden suggested that Kim contact Thomaston's Rescue Squad to determine if a cooperative agreement could be made which would satisfy this issue. Kim agreed to contact the Thomaston Town Manager to further investigate the possibility.

Old Business

Moratorium- Selectman Peter Haviland stated that two applicants had spoken to him regarding requests to build in the shoreland zone. The first was for housing over a generator on his property. The individual has health issues and the lack of power is a danger to his health. Peter did not feel that housing for a generator was a permanent building and that the individual's request should be granted. After further discussion it was agreed. Selectman David Glidden motioned, Kim Young seconded, to direct the CEO to grant the request for housing over the generator for life safety reasons. The motion passed. Chairman Alton Grover will direct CEO Scott Bickford to allow the housing for the generator.
Board Approved 4-0

The second applicant was requesting a tent-like housing, canvas over metal, to store his car in. The CEO said that he should hold off. Selectman Haviland stated that it didn't make sense that this type of shelter would fit the criteria. Chairman Grover stated he did not feel that this was a permanent structure. Planning Board member Robert Ellis stated that according to the state it is a permanent structure.

Selectman David Glidden stated that Planning Board Chairman Daniel Remian left a message requesting that the moratorium be extended as there are ongoing issues with making the new maps. CEO Scott Bickford also requested that the moratorium be extended. Selectman David Glidden made a motion to extend the moratorium only for as long as it takes to finish the amendments to the Shoreland Zone Ordinance and approval from DEP. Resident Jim Tower read from a portion of the law regarding moratoriums: Moratoriums can not be more than 180 days. Selectman Glidden stated that the extension to the moratorium could not be longer than 180 days and could potentially be less if the amendments were finished and approval given by the DEP. Selectman Kim Young stated that extending the moratorium was necessary because of the original reason for the moratorium. Mr. Tower responded that according to the statute a moratorium was only necessary in case of emergency circumstances. Selectman Haviland reiterated that because of issues with lack of completion of the maps, confusion in the language of the current ordinance, and the cost to the town and its residents for attorneys to decipher the language an extension is necessary. Mr. Tower again stated that potential for litigation or difficulty understanding the language is not a reason according to the statutes to extend a moratorium. Selectman David Glidden motioned, Kim Young seconded, to extend the moratorium 180 days and terminate sooner if the amendments to the Shoreland Zone Ordinance are finished and approval from DEP. The motion passed.

Board Approved 3-1 Alton Grover opposed

Animal Control Officer- Tabled until next meeting

Chart of Accounts- Selectman Peter Haviland motioned, Kim Young seconded, to approve the new chart of accounts. The motion passed. Selectman Young asked if residents requesting general assistance would have account numbers. Selectman Glidden responded that they would be assigned numbers when they apply.

Board Approved 4-0

SPO contract extension- The State Planning Office contract expires the 31st of this month according to

a letter Selectman David Glidden had received. Because this was a time sensitive matter, and that it had taken a week for him to receive it, he suggested that Chairman Alton Grover check the mail daily to insure that matters get addressed immediately. Selectman David Glidden motioned, Kim Young seconded, for an extension on the current contract for four months. The motion passed. Chairman Alton Grover will fax the information tomorrow.

Board Approved 4-0

Selectman David Glidden asked about the Comprehensive Plan that was voted down in November. David asked Robert Ellis for some insight. Mr. Ellis declined and stated that he did not want to rehash what he had already explained many times. One individual stated that it was more of a fear of the unknown that had caused the plan to be voted down. Selectman Kim Young stated that through conversations that she had learned that it was the fear that it would change "our way of life" that had caused it to be voted down.

- **Ethics-** David Cobey had forwarded information to the Selectmen on ethics that the town can adopt. Selectman David Glidden stated that the town already has access to ethics manuals and felt that there was no need at this time for anything more extensive. Resident Jim Tower requested a copy of the town's ethics policies.

New Business

- Alton Grover reported that he has been in contact with the DOT. They recently called him to let him know that because of a tight budget that many towns have backed out of road projects. The DOT asked for 1/3 of the cost to get on the schedule for the summer of 2007. Forty thousand has been appropriated but an additional \$20,000 dollars is needed from the town for grange hall hill. David Cobey suggested that in dangerous areas like the Pine Ridge hill a flashing light may work. Selectman David Glidden stated that after a while drivers would ignore it and felt the project of fixing areas like grange hall hill is necessary. Selectman David Glidden motioned, Kim Young seconded, to sign a contract to increase the budget an additional \$20,000 dollars for 2007. The motion passed.

Board Approved 4-0

Addressing Officer- It was suggested that the title of Addressing Officer be transferred to Joseph Carr as he already does all of the ground work for it. This would allow him to also sign the paperwork. Selectman David Glidden motioned, Kim Young seconded, to appoint Joseph Carr as the Addressing Officer. The motion passed.

Board Approved 4-0

Alton Grover motioned, Peter Haviland seconded, with all in favor of adjourning at 7:24 PM. The motion passed.

Board Approved 4-0

Minutes taken by Laurie Morse

